Camp near Valley forge 1st may 1778

Dear Sir

Be so good as to present to the Congress of the united States, my very sincere Congratulations for the Great intelligence lately arrived from France — I am myself fit to receive as well as to offer congratulations in this happy circumstance — if you remember, Sir, in which moment in which sentiments I left my country you will easily conceive how surprised, how pleased I must be to see our noble cause arrived at such a period of Glory and Success — immortality shall attend the respectable leaders whose virtue and talents have stood in the most dangerous Crisis, and obtained at last the end they were fighting for; the happiness and liberty of their Grateful citizens — I glorify myself to have been the witness of this ever famous revolution.

Very happy, Sir, I am that the articles given by my country seem to your Commissioners to be calculated upon noble and Generous principles — the french frankness, Give me leave to add, will contrast with the dark behaviour of their neighbours, who after they began the war by tyranny and ungratefulness, continued it by the most Savage barbarity, despising insolence, and desperate ravages, by now to conceal their projects of an inveterate vengeance, under a cloud of lies and deception Now we get the motive and the object of that Jesuitical Lord north's Speech, of that important Letter from Mr Joachone —

The whole affair consists to day to Resolve this most difficult question, viz — if America will be more free in being dependant than independant. I hope Mr Simeon Deane who have seen of our french troops will tell you that they seem able to meet in the field, even the new so celebrated in their late papers Manchester Regiment and the yeomen of his Britannick Majesty.

With the Greatest impatience we expect to hear from Congress that we may publickly testify our satisfaction — I hope also, Sir, that by new

Exertions Never to a proper Than in this time, we will soon be enabled to add some Warlike circumstances to the distressed Situation of our Virtuous, generous enemys of Philadelphia and new york.

With the highest Regard I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedient Servant

The Mis de Lafayette

Marquis de Lafayette
10 May 1778
Encl. 3 p.

PP-541

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